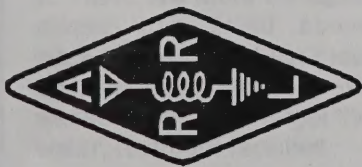


THE FORT WAYNE RADIO CLUB
PO Box 15127
FORT WAYNE, IN 46885

To: JIM & ANNE PLIETT K9OMA
16702 WAPPES RD.
CHURUBSCO, IN 46723

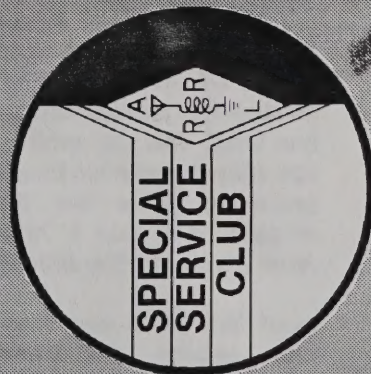
HAMS PLATTER



June 1998

The Fort Wayne Radio Club

W9TE



Hamsplatter

"Field Day 1998
is fast approach-
ing."

June 1998

Volume 27 Issue 6



Editor:
Todd Hargis,
N9XRG 492-2138

President:
Bill Stockalger,
N9WS 471-4492

Vice President:
Scott Price,
N9VZJ 744-1977

Secretary:
Al Burke,
WB9SSE 637-1989

Treasurer:
Bob Streeter,
W8ST 672-9737

Communications
Manager:
Chris Shreve,
N9MEB 483-7570

HAMSPLATTER is
published monthly
by the Fort Wayne
Radio Club
PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN
46806

Don't Miss This Months Program "Weather Spotter Training"

President's Corner

We had a great Spring Banquet with lots of delicious food and fellowship for all. Due to the following weekend being the Dayton Hamvention, the banquet was held early in May. If you missed the banquet, you missed some delicious food and a great time.

Special thanks to all the members who were kind enough to bring recipes for the cookbook. Unfortunately, we still don't have enough to produce a viable cookbook at this time. We will hold onto all of the wonderful recipes we've received, and perhaps by this time next year, we will be able to complete this fundraiser.

Dayton Hamvention Bus Trip

The bus trip to the Dayton Hamvention turned out to be the best trip of all in that the bus and driver were both top notch. Everything went smoothly during the trip, and of course, the weather in Dayton was near perfect this year. On the down side, the

bus had a lot of empty seats and the club lost money on the endeavor. For next year the club will have to either make early reservations or forego the bus trip as we cannot afford to subsidize the trip.

Field Day 1998

Dig out the tents, charge your battery packs and gas up the generators - Field Day 1998 is fast approaching. The Fort Wayne Radio Club will hold their event on Saturday and Sunday, June 27-28, at Peyton Park on Dunton Road. We are plan-

Next Meeting
Friday 6/19/98
7:30 PM
Good Shepherd
United Methodist
Church
Corner of Vance Ave
and Reed Rd

ning on a 2 HF and 1 VHF setup this year. Some of the gang are going to show up on Friday and spend the night. Early setup is being considered this year to make it easier on the field day team. The only penalty is being restricted to 24 hours of operation instead of the maximum of 27 hours.

Next Club Meeting - June 19

Program will be "Weather Spotter Training". The presentation will last about 1 hour and will be given by Jane Hollingsworth of the National Weather Service. This presentation is very informative and at the end of the meeting you will have the opportunity to sign up as an official weather spotter. I highly recommend that you do not miss this potentially life saving presentation.

Wanted - Vice President

Due to job requirements that often involve night and weekend hours, Scott Price (N9VZJ) has reluctantly stepped down from the position of Club Vice President. This opens up the position for nomination and election during the next two regular club meetings in accordance with the club bylaws. Therefore, any eligible club member who desires to run for this position for the duration of this year is encouraged to step forward. Please contact any club officer with your nomination for the vice president. Nominations will be open to the floor at the June 19 regular club meeting.

May Minutes

Due to the Spring Banquet there are no minutes.

INARRL BULLETIN 35-98

SUBJECT: ACARTS
W9INX BBS TO POSSI-
BLY CEASE OPERA-
TIONS!

April 30, 1998

It would be a loss to amateur radio in northeast Indiana and western Ohio if the following situation is not resolved. To say that the W9INX PACKET BBS plays a key role in this part of Indiana is a gross understatement.

Volunteers are needed in key areas of ham radioactivity as some of the old timers are getting somewhat burned out and have other commitments and activities they would like to pursue.

What is happening in your area, did you lose a packet BBS and local nets and other ham radio activity because someone would not step forward to volunteer?

Many packet BBS's have bit the dust in the past few years within this area and many parts of Indiana. The end result is that other ham radioactivities have fell too.

THERE IS TOO MUCH OF LET THE OTHER PERSON DO IT! Needless to say the Internet and email has also impacted amateur radio.

I certainly hope someone steps forward in this case to pick up the ball and run with it!

>->->->->-> Welcome to
W9INX's News Center!! <-
<-<-<-<-<-<-

This News Center contains general information concerning the BBS, and local ham radio activities in the Fort Wayne Area.

Last updated 4-27-98

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR USERS OF THE W9INX BBS

Please note that, unless someone steps forward and is willing to move this BBS to their location and take over as SYSOP, this BBS will cease operations on or about June 15, 1998.

After 7 years as the W9INX BBS SYSOP, I plan to retire at that capacity. The reasons for this are two fold: 1) is that 7 years is long enough for a volunteer job, and 2) the BBS ties up my personal primary antennas, and I would like to have them back for my own use.

If you are interested in taking over as the SYSOP of this BBS, please contact me either by packet, by email at daagnon@pipeline.com, or by telephone at 484-3317 evenings to discuss what is involved and to determine if you are truly interested.

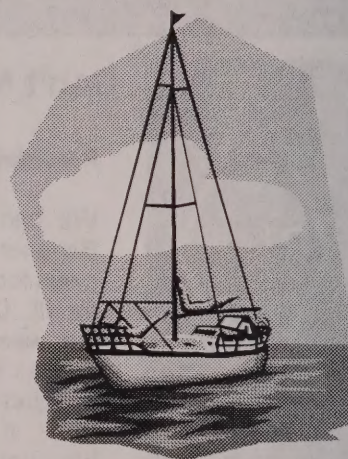
If no one steps forward to accept this responsibility, then I will give one weeks notice that the BBS will be closing down, and pull the switch on the announced date.

73 Don WB8HQS

Thanks to Dan Dahms/
N9WNH for pulling this item
down and posting it.

For Sale

40 Foot tower with 25 foot mast
pipe ready to go. \$100
Contact Don Davison
(219) 486-3506



INARRL BULLETIN 37-98

SUBJECT: SOME AREA
HAMFESTS

June 14
Six Meter Club of Chicago
Wheaton, IL
Joseph Gutwein, WA9RIJ
7109 Blackburn Ave.
Downers Grove, IL 60516-
3925
630-963-4922

June 14
Northern Kentucky ARC
Erlanger, KY
Robert Blocher, N8JMV
PO Box 287
Highland Heights, KY 41076
513-797-7252

June 21
Monroe County Radio Com-
munications Assn.
Monroe, MI
Fred VanDaele, KA8EBI
4 Carl Dr.
Monroe, MI 48162-9319
313-242-9487

June 21
Cuyahoga ARS, Macedonia,

(Continued from page 2)

OH
Rich James, N8FIL
7620 Crestwood Ln.
Northfield Ctr., OH 44067
800-404-2282
<http://www.cars.org>

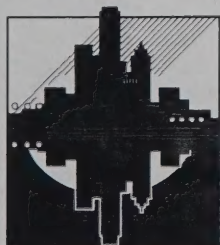
July 11
Central Division Convention,
Indianapolis, IN
(1 day only)
Rick Ogan, N9LRR
5329 Lester
Indianapolis, IN 46208
317-251-4407

July 12
Kankakee Area Radio Society
Peotone, IL
Don Kerouac, K9NR
6311 East Flora St.
Kankakee, IL 60901
815-939-7548
E-mail: k9nr@juno.com

July 19
Van Wert ARC
Van Wert, OH
Louie Thomas, WD8LLO
208 North Chestnut St.
Van Wert, OH 45891
419-238-2812
E-mail: barnesrl@bright.net
<http://www.bright.net/barnesrl/w8fy.htm>

July 25
OH-KY-IN ARS
Cincinnati, OH
Dana Laurie, WA8M
280 Hillcrest Dr.
Cincinnati, OH 45215
513-761-7388
E-mail: rdl@one.net

Please send me any corrections/updates



INARRL BULLETIN 38-98

SUBJECT: FIELD DAY PREPARATIONS

April 30, 1998

It is not too early to get things started for Field Day 1998 and your club or group should of already had a committee appointed to plan the process.

We know that the spirit of Field Day is concerned with overall operations of a site under less than optimal conditions. In reality however when that fall issue of QST comes out everyone seems to look at the score card in points to compare how their station group compares to that of others within the same category.

I recall one amateur operator a few years ago who was serious when learning of our 2000 some points scored for Field Day stated "Well next year we will run 16A". I had to respond by stating that whoa it does not work in that simple manner, how would we staff a 16A station? Where would we get all the equipment? Anyway it was just a point that Field Day serves numerous areas of operating skills.

One of the overall important considerations of Field Day is SAFETY! It has been tragic in past years with numerous hams who have lost their lives or experienced severe injuries due to carelessness and lack of knowledge about the bad things that can happen.

1. Your committee needs to

formulate what the group can reasonably support. In our case it has been the classic 2A station.

2. A site needs to be selected and confirmation needs to be obtained if it is indeed free to use that area on Field Day weekend.

3. Some type of shelter will probably be in order such as tents, campers or buildings. It important to remember that the summer storms can crop up very quickly in Indiana. So protection of equipment and operators needs to be considered.

4. All sorts of antennas go up in the air on Field Day to include towers. Try to ensure that you have enough operators on hand to erect the towers or mount the antennas.

5. Most groups appear to use some type of generator. That equipment should be checked out prior to Field Day as this type of equipment seldom gets any use throughout the remainder of the year. Have you considered converting your generator to LP operation instead of gas? Any fuel can be very dangerous if mishandled.

6. Your committee may want to brief oldtimers and newcomers both on logging procedures, how to use software, manual logging and the radio equipment involved. I know if my expensive radio equipment is on line it is important to me if operators understand how to engage the manual or automatic tuner along with the antenna selection process. How many times have

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

we found a HF radio in distress only to find out the tuner was not switched on or a improper setting was selected. A committee can introduce these subjects at your club meetings or special meetings where Field Day is the main topic.

7. Understanding logging is an important topic for the operators. Many newcomers do not know what SJV or NNJ means when Field Day begins. The committee should brief the uninitiated on what to expect. Even our Section designator creates a few headaches on Field Day. How many times has an Indiana station given a 599 IN report only to have the other station come back and send UR SECTION PLEASE! Sometimes it is almost easier to go ahead and give the report of 599 INDIANA.

8. The overall goal as I look at it is to familiarize operators with equipment and procedures that may come in handy when the real emergency comes along. New operators learn by seeing and doing. Don't forget that Novice station on Field Day.

9. There are more considerations than listed above such as the typical big meal on Saturday night or all weekend and don't forget the water, restroom facilities.



INARRL BULLETIN 41-98

SUBJECT:
LICENSE PLATES ON LINE

May 4, 1998

Yes it is true you can renew your vehicle registration via the so called "Rapid Renewal System" on the internet. Well you knew it had to happen sooner or later right? You know just standing back and looking at this thing one has to get some type of grasp about the "Hand Writing on Wall" phrase in relation to this computer craze age.

The computer is here to stay, you either join, fight it, try to ignore it but it affects all of our lives. I think the so called soothsayers in this business are somewhat calling the shots that are rapidly becoming fact. Lets look back on a few simple things, how many payroll systems want direct deposit to bank, ATM's, ham radio callbooks, gas pumps, appliances company invoicing and vehicles?

Many of these operations start out in sort of a basic or rough cut mode, sometimes it almost makes one wonder why did a process go to computer when it almost seems like it is more work to accomplish by machine than by pen. The progress then moves on to other stages and becomes part of our lives. The Indiana Bureau of Motor Vehicles (BMV) is no exception. As of this date I would say they are in that rough cut mode and there are numerous limitations and you do have to wait a

while on your license plate.

You cannot renew your ham call plate or specialty plates at this time via the internet and there other limitations, but remember this is only the start. So if your registration renewal does not have a PIN number or needs additional documentation such as personalized plates you are out of luck at this time. Yes, you will need your credit card but you will have to wait 1 to 3 weeks for your stickers or plates to arrive by mail.

Anyway if you want to find this information direct just go to the <http://www.ai.org/> which is Access Indiana Information Network.

New Editor for Hamsplatter

I am glad to report that Victor Guess has volunteered to take over the editorship of the Hamsplatter. I wish Vic much luck and wish to thank him for not allowing this publication to cease.

I have enjoyed my two years as the editor. As I said before the time needed to produce a quality newsletter is greater than the time which I currently have. To top off my professional demands on my time, my wife Carol and I found out a few months ago that we were expecting twins. I can only imagine how this will impact my time.

Thank you to all that have contributed articles and ideas in the past. I hope you will support Vic with the ideas and articles you did me.

73s,
Todd Hargis N9XRG